[16th February 1959

Theft cases in Chidambaram

* 389 *Q.*—Sri A. A. Rasheed : Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that large number of thefts are occurring in Chidambaram; and

(*b*) if so, the number of theft cases registered in August to October 1958 and the number of persons arrested and convicted for theft?

The Hon. Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam : (*a*) & (*b*) No, Sir. The figures for Chidambaram taluk including Chidambaram town are as follows :—

Number of theft cases registered in August to October 1958 is 93.

Number of persons arrested is 55.

Number of persons convicted is 40.

Sri A. A. Rasheed : Sir, how does the figure compare with the figure available for previous two quarters and has the attention of the Government been drawn to press reports regarding increased thefts in Chidambaram?

The Hon. Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam : I am not aware of any such press reports. But compared not only with previous quarters, but also with previous years' figures, the present figures are not discouraging.

District Judges

* 390 *Q.*—Sri S. Lazar : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of District Judges in 1957;

(*b*) how many of them were recruited direct from the Bar;

(*c*) how many of them have since retired; and

(*d*) whether the vacancies concerned have been filled up?

The Hon. Sri C. Subramaniam : (*a*) The number of District Judges in 1957—Nineteen permanent posts.

(*b*) On 1st January 1957, there were three officers directly recruited from the Bar. Sri P. Sharfuddin retired from service on 14th January 1957. Hence the number of directly recruited District Judges was two after 14th January 1957.

(*c*) Two have since retired.

(*d*) No. The Government have decided to fill up the two vacancies only after the retirement of two I.C.S. District Judges or their appointment as Judges in the High Court. Since Sri B. C. Koman, I.C.S., retired from service on 22nd November 1958, action has been taken to fill up the vacancy by direct recruitment from among the Members of the Bar with the requisite qualifications.